

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for integrating a third-party system with an online meeting system, the method
2 comprising:
 - 3 providing a service provider interface (SPI) defining a plurality of procedures for
4 communicating with a meeting services application of the online meeting system;
 - 5 implementing one of the procedures of the SPI by a software module to perform,
6 when executed, a meeting-related operation customized in accordance with the third-
7 party system; and
 - 8 calling by the meeting service application the implemented SPI procedure of the
9 software module to perform the meeting-related operation.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the called SPI procedure notifies the software module of
2 a proposed transaction of an event in the online meeting system to enable the software
3 module to perform the meeting-related operation before the event occurs.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising prohibiting the occurrence of the event in
2 response to performing the meeting-related operation implemented by the called SPI
3 procedure.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising redirecting by the called SPI procedure a user
2 of the online meeting system to an error page in response to prohibiting the event.
- 1 5. The method of claim 2, further comprising modifying meeting-related information
2 associated with the proposed event in response to performing the meeting-related
3 operation implemented by the called SPI procedure.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the called SPI procedure notifies the software module of
2 an event that has occurred in the online meeting system to enable the software module to
3 perform the meeting-related operation in response to the occurrence of that event.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising installing a new software module that
2 implements one of the SPI procedures, and dynamically integrating the new software
3 module to the meeting services application without stopping the online meeting system.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of calling the implemented SPI procedure is in
2 response to receiving a user request to create, edit, or delete a meeting.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of calling the implemented SPI procedure is in
2 response to detecting a state change of a running meeting.
- 1 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising defining a first class that implements the SPI
2 and a second class that extends the first class and implements the called SPI procedure
3 that performs the customized method-related operation.
- 1 11. An online meeting system, comprising a server system having memory for storing
2 program code and a processor for executing the program code, the program code
3 including:
 - 4 a meeting service application for providing online meeting services for users
5 communicating with the online meeting system over a network connection;
 - 6 a service provider interface (SPI) defining a plurality of procedures for
7 communicating with the meeting services application; and

8 a software module implementing one of the procedures of the SPI to perform a
9 meeting-related operation customized in accordance with a third-party system when the
10 procedure is called by the meeting service application.

1 12. The online meeting system of claim 11, wherein the implemented SPI procedure, when
2 called, notifies the software module of a proposed transaction of an event in the online
3 meeting system to enable the software module to perform the meeting-related operation
4 before the event occurs.

1 13. The online meeting system of claim 12, wherein the implemented SPI procedure includes
2 program code for throwing an exception to prohibit the occurrence of the event in
3 response to performing the meeting-related operation.

1 14. The online meeting system of claim 11, wherein the called SPI procedure notifies the
2 software module of an event that has occurred in the online meeting system to enable the
3 software module to perform the meeting-related operation in response to the occurrence
4 of that event.

1 15. The online meeting system of claim 11, wherein the server system includes a means of
2 storing software modules to be integrated in the online meeting system, and wherein the
3 meeting services application periodically accesses the storage means to install
4 dynamically any software module newly added to the storage means without stopping the
5 online meeting system.

1 16. The online meeting system of claim 11, further comprising program code defining a first
2 class that implements the plurality of procedures of the SPI and a second class that

3 extends the first class and provides a customized implementation of one of the SPI
4 procedures defined in the first class.

1 17. An apparatus for integrating a third-party system with an online meeting system, the
2 apparatus comprising:

3 means for providing a service provider interface (SPI) defining a plurality of
4 procedures for communicating with a meeting services application of the online meeting
5 system;

6 means for implementing one of the procedures of the SPI by a software module to
7 perform, when executed, a meeting-related operation customized in accordance with the
8 third party system; and

9 means for calling by the meeting service application the implemented SPI
10 procedure of the software module to perform the meeting-related operation.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the means for calling the implemented SPI procedure
2 includes means for notifying the software module of a proposed transaction of an event in
3 the online meeting system to enable the software module to perform the meeting-related
4 operation before the event occurs.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the means for calling the implemented SPI procedure
2 includes means for prohibiting the occurrence of the event in response to performing the
3 meeting-related operation.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising means for defining a first class that
2 implements the plurality of procedures of the SPI and a second class that extends the first

3 class and provides a customized implementation of one of the SPI procedures defined in
4 the first class.

1 21. A computer program product for use with a computer system, the computer program
2 product comprising a computer useable medium having embodied therein program code
3 comprising:

4 program code for providing a service provider interface (SPI) defining a plurality
5 of procedures for communicating with a meeting services application of the online
6 meeting system;

7 program code for implementing one of the procedures of the SPI by a software
8 module to perform, when executed, a meeting-related operation customized in
9 accordance with the third party system; and

10 program code for calling by the meeting service application the implemented SPI
11 procedure of the software module to perform the meeting-related operation.

1 22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the program code for calling the
2 implemented SPI procedure includes program code for notifying the software module of
3 a proposed transaction of an event in the online meeting system to enable the software
4 module to perform the meeting-related operation before the event occurs.

1 23. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the program code for calling the
2 implemented SPI procedure includes program code for prohibiting the occurrence of the
3 event in response to performing the meeting-related operation.

- 1 24. The computer program product of claim 21, further comprising program code for
- 2 defining a first class that implements the plurality of procedures of the SPI and a second
- 3 class that extends the first class and provides a customized implementation of one of the
- 4 SPI procedures defined in the first class.
- 1 25. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave for use with a computer system
- 2 having a display and capable of generating a user interface through which a user may
- 3 interact with the computer system, the computer data signal comprising:
 - 4 program code for providing a service provider interface (SPI) defining a plurality
 - 5 of procedures for communicating with a meeting services application of the online
 - 6 meeting system;
 - 7 program code for implementing one of the procedures of the SPI by a software
 - 8 module to perform, when executed, a meeting-related operation customized in
 - 9 accordance with the third party system; and
 - 10 program code for calling by the meeting service application the implemented SPI
 - 11 procedure of the software module to perform the meeting-related operation.
- 1 26. The computer data signal of claim 25, wherein the program code for calling the
- 2 implemented SPI procedure includes program code for notifying the software module of
- 3 a proposed transaction of an event in the online meeting system to enable the software
- 4 module to perform the meeting-related operation before the event occurs.

- 1 27. The computer data signal of claim 25, wherein the program code for calling the
- 2 implemented SPI procedure includes program code for prohibiting the occurrence of the
- 3 event in response to performing the meeting-related operation.
- 1 28. The computer data signal of claim 25, further comprising program code for defining a
- 2 first class that implements the plurality of procedures of the SPI and a second class that
- 3 extends the first class and provides a customized implementation of one of the SPI
- 4 procedures defined in the first class.